































EUCH A BLACK MAGIC— EUCH AN UNSEEN MENACE! IN THE MORNING WE SEND UP SMOKE SIGNALS— TO SUMMON STRAIGHT ARROW!































































R CAN BRI WIS!
COMB AND LIVE WITH
THE COMMNCHE, AS
BROTHER, WE SHALL
NOT CALL YOU "DEVIL"
FACE, BUT "STROMS ARMY







When you're dient the years old - and the ownhoot brood has taken and mom and diaand you're alone in the new ethange west - and you've pledged yourself to a grin, terrely
mission of yengeance - It's a angitty tough world, parener! But - when you know that
the ourself of the pointing an your see, warl "NEVER SAY DIE!"







SOW A MILLIONARISH SUT-IF TOM AND H FAMILY HAPPENED WOULD GO TO ANS, SECAUSE I'M THE OF KIN! AWAYAN. I THANK I'LL PAN COURM TOWN A WITH









GOLLY DAD - D'YOU THINK INE'LL GET THE THE DURANGO KIO! I HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT HIM - HE'S MY FAVORITE WESTERN HERD!













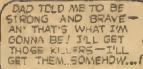














FIRST-SOB! -FIRST I





























THAT'S RIGHT, MISTER - TAKE YOU AND THE KID WILL GET IT RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES! ALL RIGHT, MEN - TIE TREM





WAL STEVIE -YUH GOT THET TRICK RING O' SURE HAVE, YOUR'N WORKIN'S MULEY

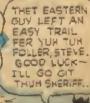


A SIMPLE PRESSURE ON IT AND THIS RING PRODUCES A RAZOR-SHARP KNIFE! ILL HAVE YOU FREE IN A THEN YOU UNTIE ME.



FEW MINUTES LATER-AND THE WORK IS

A FEW DONE ... AND NOW - I THINK DAVY IS GOING TO GET HIS WISH, HE'S GOING TO SEE THE OURANGO MID IN ACTION! PLENTY OF ACTION!

































IT CAME CHUGGING UP THE THE PADDLEWHEELS SLOSHING WATER CARRYING A CARGO OF DOOMED HUMANS! FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN ABOARD THE GUNSMOKE WERE MARKED FOR DEATH BY THE MOST VICIOUS RIDERS IN THE SOUTHWEST—THE GRIM MAN-KILLERS WHO RODE WITH THE ELACK COST

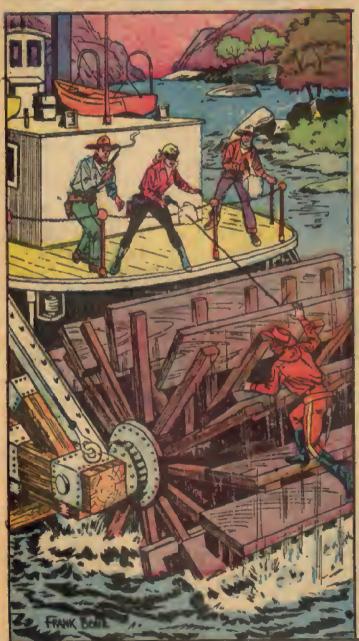
ATTEMPTED A RESCUE, HE FOUND HIMSELF EYE TO EYE WITH DEATH'S GRIM SKULL AS HE FACED THE DEADLY—

## 'PERIL on the PADDLEWHEELER!'

A GUNSHOT BLASTS THE MID-MORNING RUSH IN A SILVER CITY BANK ... !



















T'M

MINUTES LATER ..









COWED AND TERRORIZED PEOPLE ARE HERDED INTO THEIR ROOMS ...





IN BULLET, SOME DAYS LATER, AS THE STAGECOACH PULLS TO A HALT BEFORE THE HOME STATION...



BUT WHEN BETTY HAMMOND APPEARS ON THE DECK OF THE PADDLEWHEELER.









SUDDENLY, A PEAL OF LAUGHTER RISES - ABOVE THE HUMDRUM TOWN SOUNDS...







WITHIN AN HOUR, THE BIG PADDLES ARE ONCE AGAIN CHURNING THE RIVER WATER, AND THE GUNSMOKE PLILLS OUT OF BULLET, BOUND FOR BORDER CITY...











## THE BLACK RIDER IS A WOMAN-THE SAME WOMAN THAT WAS WITH THAT PADDLEWHEELER CAPTAIN ON THE STREET! COME TO THINK OF IT—WHERE WAS BETTY HAMMOND AT THE TIME? GOT TO SEE HERPRONTO!











































CLOSE BEHIND MEL









MAUTES
LATER, AS
THE GHOST
RIDER
THUNDERS
THROUGH
THE MISTS
SHROUDING
NEEDLE
BLUFFS, THE
MONSTER
ROARS TO
MEET
HIM.













THE MONSTER WASN'T
AN ANIMAL OF SOME
SORT—IT WAS A
MECHANICAL THING
AND BY THE SHAPE OF
THOSE OIL DRIPS, I CAN
TELL WHICH WAY
IT WENT!



THE TRAIL ENDS AT THE BASE OF THESE BLUFFS!

HUH - THAT MECHANISM

AS DUSK FALLS, REX FURY DISAPPEARS, AND IN HIS PLACE, THE GHOST RIDER, REACHES UPWARD TOWARD A HANGING VINE-























IN FRENZIED TERROR, THE CRIMINALS AND KILLERS HIDING OUT IN THE BLUFF CAVE TURN TO FLEE. BUT EYERYWHERE THEY GO ANOTHER MONSTER APPEARS—













THOSE OWLHOOTS HAVE BEEN USING THIS PLACE AS A HIDEOUT — AND THIS MONSTER TO SCARE FOLKS AWAY SO THEY WON'T BE FOUND!













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